AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended):   A method of reducing ink coverage for inkjet printing comprising:

　　　　generating a monochromatic halftone bit map of a print to be printed by an inkjet printer; and

　　　　applying a bit map filter to the monochromatic halftone bit map to generate a filtered bit map for the inkjet printer, wherein applying the filter comprises comparing a target glyph to a subset of bits in the monochromatic halftone bit map, and replacing the subset of bits with a thinned glyph if the target glyph matches the subset of bits.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Original):   The method of claim 1, wherein the monochromatic halftone bit map is a first monochromatic halftone bit map corresponding to a first colorant, the method further comprising:

　　　　generating a second monochromatic halftone bit map of the print, the second monochromatic halftone bit map corresponding to a second colorant; and

　　　　applying the bit map filter to the second monochromatic halftone bit map.

Claim 4 (Original):   The method of claim 1, further comprising printing a colorant of the print on a substrate according to the filtered bit map.

Claim 5 (Canceled)

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Claim 6 (Currently amended):   The method of <u>claim 1</u><s>claim 5</s>, further comprising:

    passing the target glyph over the monochromatic halftone bit map;

    comparing the target glyph to a number of subsets of bits; and

    replacing a particular subset of bits with the thinned glyph whenever the target glyph matches the particular subset of bits.

Claim 7 (Currently amended):   The method of <u>claim 1</u><s>claim 5</s>, the method further comprising:

    comparing a second target glyph to a second subset of bits in the monochromatic halftone bit map; and

    replacing the second subset of bits with a second thinned glyph if the second target glyph matches the second subset of bits.

Claim 8 (Original):   The method of claim 1, further comprising detecting an edge of the print and ensuring that a bit corresponding to the edge is not changed by a thinned glyph.

Claim 9 (Currently amended):   The method of <u>claim 1</u><s>claim 5</s>, wherein the target glyph includes ON-bits and the thinned glyph includes ON-bits and OFF-bits.

Claim 10 (Original):   The method of claim 9, wherein the target glyph includes five ON-bits forming a plus shape and the thinned glyph includes four ON-bits and one OFF-bit.

Claim 11 (Original):   The method of claim 10, wherein thinned glyph forms a plus shape, the OFF-bit of the thinned glyph being in the center of the four ON-bits of the thinned glyph.

Claim 12 (Original):   The method of claim 9, wherein the target glyph includes three ON-bits and the thinned glyph includes two ON-bits and one OFF-bit, the OFF-bit being located between the two ON-bits in the thinned glyph.

Claim 13 (Original):   The method of claim 9, wherein the ON-bits indicate the presence of ink and the OFF-bits indicate the absence of ink.

Claim 14 (Original):   The method of claim 9, wherein the ON-bits indicate the presence of a first amount of ink and the OFF-bits indicate the presence of a second amount of ink.

Claim 15 (Original):   The method of claim 1, further comprising applying a mask prior to applying the filter, the mask defining areas of the monochromatic halftone bit map to which the filter is to be applied.

Claim 16 (Original):   The method of claim 1, wherein applying the bit map filter begins prior to finalizing the generating of the monochromatic halftone bit map.

Claim 17 (Original):   The method of claim 1, wherein generating the monochromatic halftone bit map of the print includes converting a number of halftone cells into the monochromatic halftone bit map, each halftone cell including a number of points that are selectively turned on to model a continuous tone pixel.

Claim 18 (Original):   The method of claim 1, wherein generating the monochromatic halftone bit map of the print includes a screening process that does not make use of halftone cells.

Claim 19 (Original):   The method of claim 4, further comprising examining the substrate and determining whether it is acceptable.

Claim 20 (Currently amended):   A method of reducing ink coverage for inkjet printing comprising:

comparing a target glyph to a subset of bits within a halftone bit map associated with a print to be printed by an inkjet printer; and

replacing the subset of bits within the halftone bit map with a thinned glyph if the target glyph matches the subset of bits to generate a filtered halftone bit map for the inkjet printer.

Claim 21 (Currently amended):   The method of claim 20, further comprising:

passing the target glyph over the halftone bit map;

comparing the target glyph to a number of subsets of bits; and

creating the a-filtered halftone bit map by replacing a particular subset of bits with the thinned glyph whenever the target glyph matches the particular subset of bits.

Claim 22 (Original):   The method of claim 21, further comprising printing a print on a substrate according to the filtered halftone bit map.

Claim 23 (Original):   The method of claim 22, further comprising examining the substrate and re-defining the target glyph and thinned glyph if the substrate appears unacceptable.

Claim 24 (Original):   The method of claim 23, further comprising:

passing the re-defined target glyph over the halftone bit map;

comparing the re-defined target glyph to the number of subsets of bits; and

creating a second filtered halftone bit map by replacing a particular subset of bits with the re-defined thinned glyph whenever the re-defined target glyph matches the particular subset of bits.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium carrying program code that, when executed reduces ink coverage for inkjet printing by:

generating generates a monochromatic halftone bit map of a print to be printed by an inkjet printer; and

applying applies a bit map filter to the monochromatic halftone bit map to generate a filtered bit map, wherein applying the filter comprises comparing a target glyph to a subset of bits in the monochromatic halftone bit map, and replacing the subset of bits with a thinned glyph if the target glyph matches the subset of bits.

Claim 26 (Canceled)

Claim 27 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium carrying program code that reduces ink coverage for inkjet printing wherein the program code, when executed:

compares a target glyph to a subset of bits within a halftone bit map associated with a print to be printed by an inkjet printer; and

replaces the subset of bits within the halftone bit map with a thinned glyph if the target glyph matches the subset of bits to generate a filtered bit map for the inkjet printer.

Claim 28 (Currently amended): A system that reduces ink coverage for inkjet printing comprising:

a memory that stores a monochromatic halftone bit map associated with a print to be printed by an inkjet printer; and

a processor coupled to the memory that applies a bit map filter to the monochromatic halftone bit map to generate a filtered bit map for the inkjet printer, wherein the processor applies the bit map filter by:

passing the target glyph over the monochromatic halftone bit map;

comparing the target glyph to a number of subsets of bits; and

replacing a particular subset of bits with the thinned glyph whenever the target glyph matches the particular subset of bits to generate the filtered bit map.

Claim 29 (Canceled)

Claim 30 (Currently amended):   The system of claim 28, wherein the system is an inkjet printer.

Claim 31 (Canceled)

Claim 32 (Currently amended):   The system of claim 28, wherein the system is coupled to an inkjet printer.

Claim 33 (Canceled)

Claim 34 (Currently amended):   A system that reduces ink coverage for inkjet printing comprising:

a memory that stores a halftone bit map associated with a print to be printed by an inkjet printer, a target glyph and a thinned glyph; and

a processor coupled to the memory that compares the target glyph to a subset of bits within the bit map, and replaces the subset of bits within the bit map with the thinned glyph if the target glyph matches the subset of bits to generate a filtered bit map for the inkjet printer.

Claim 35 (Currently amended):   The system of claim 34, wherein the system is an inkjet printer.

Claim 36 (Canceled)

Claim 37 (Currently amended):   The system of claim 34, wherein the system is coupled to an inkjet printer.

Claim 38 (Canceled)

Claim 39 (New): A method of reducing ink coverage for a halftone printing device comprising:

generating a monochromatic halftone bit map of a channel of a color image to be printed by the halftone printing device; and

applying a bit map filter to the monochromatic halftone bit map to generate a filtered bit map for the halftone printing device by passing a target glyph over the monochromatic halftone bit map, comparing the target glyph to a number of subsets of bits in the monochromatic halftone bit map, and replacing a particular subset of bits with the thinned glyph when the target glyph matches the particular subset of bits, wherein applying the bit map filter begins prior to finalizing the generating of the monochromatic halftone bit map.